

112 STATE STREET  
DRAWER 20  
MONTPELIER, VT 05620-2601  
TEL: 802-828-2811

FAX: 802-828-2342  
TTY (VT): 1-800-734-8390  
e-mail: [vtdps@psd.state.vt.us](mailto:vtdps@psd.state.vt.us)  
Internet: <http://www.state.vt.us/psd>

For immediate release  
March 3, 2005

For information contact:  
Deena Frankel, 802-828-4021



**STATE OF VERMONT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE  
MEDIA RELEASE**

## **DPS NAMES NEW DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC ADVOCACY**

Montpelier, VT – Commissioner David O'Brien today announced the appointment of Sarah Hofmann to the position of Director of Public Advocacy for the Department of Public Service. Hofmann has been with the Department as a Special Counsel in the legal division since 1996.

"I'm very pleased to announce Sarah Hofmann's appointment as Public Advocate. She has represented the Department ably for more than eight years, handling some of the most demanding cases we have faced. Her skills in litigation, her steadiness in the role of legal advisor and her skills as a team leader all make her perfectly suited to step up to this new role," O'Brien said. "The role of Public Advocacy Director is critical to DPS's ability to represent the public interest. Sarah's thoughtful and capable leadership approach will ensure this key role continues in the tradition of excellence of her predecessors," he added.

In her tenure at DPS, Hofmann has served for several years as lead counsel in cases related to Vermont Yankee, and has handled a broad range of energy and telecommunications cases regarding major utilities. Prior to joining DPS, Hofmann served in Vermont state government as an attorney in the office of the Defender General. She previously practiced law in Illinois.

Hofmann holds a Juris Doctorate from Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, New Hampshire, and a Bachelors from Rollins College. She is active in Vermont civic affairs at the state and local levels. She succeeds James Volz, the previous Director for Public Advocacy, who last week was named Public Service Board Chairman by Governor James Douglas.

###